320. *[Transferred Io the 2nd May,* 1986]

Code of ethics for political parties

321. SHRI B. SATYANARA YAN REDDY : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a proposal for formulating a code of ethics for the political parties in India ;

(b) whether any such proposal was considered at the recently held meeting of the National Integration Council ; and

(c) if so, what are the details in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INTERNAL SECURITY (SHRI ARUN NEHRU)' : (a) No, Sir. There is no proposal with the Government for formulating a code of ethics for political parties in India.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Supply of poor quality rations to the Armed forces

322. SHRI SURESH KALMADI :
SHRI DHARAM CHANDER PRASHANT :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have received any complaints recently regarding supply of poor quality rations to the officers of the armed forces ;

(b) if so, what steps taken by Government to improve the quality thereof; and

(c) whether Government are contemplating to give cash in lieu of rations

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARUN SINGH) : (a) and (b) There have been some suggestions for improvement in the quality of rations provided to the officers. Suitable procedures exist to ensure maintenance of the quality of rations.

(c) There is already a provision for payment of cash in lieu of rations in certain circumstances.

Purchase of HMS Hermes from Britain

323. SHRI SURESH KALMADI :
SHRI DHARAM CHANDER PRASHANT :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to si

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are going to purchase the British aircraft carrier HMS Hermes ;

(b) if so, when the deal is expected to be finalised ; and

(c) what will be the total cost thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARUN SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

h) The Agreement was signed on 19th April, 1986.

(c) Inclusive of dry-docking and refit, spares, stores and services; it will cost about £ 63 million.